

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus carrying an optical reading apparatus thereon, wherein said optical reading apparatus ~~comprising~~ comprises:
- platen glass defined with one end and ~~the~~ an other end, on an upper surface ~~of~~ on which an original document is placed;
- an optical reading unit that ~~translates~~ scans between said both ends on a lower surface of said platen glass, for obtaining image data by irradiating an original document surface with light through said platen glass;
- A1 a control circuit board connected to said optical reading unit, for processing an electric signal; and
- a housing ~~wherein~~ having a side on the side of said other end is thicker than a side on the side of said one end,
- ~~and~~ wherein said image forming apparatus ~~having~~ comprises a cabinet ~~containing~~ positioned under said housing of said optical reading apparatus, said cabinet comprising:
- sheet discharge means for discharging an image formation sheet from a ~~lower part~~ lower side on under said thicker side of said housing of said optical reading apparatus ~~toward a lower part upper side on said thinner side of said housing~~; and

a discharge tray, disposed at and covering an upper portion of said cabinet under said housing of said optical reading unit, on which the image formation sheet discharged from said sheet discharge means is received and stacked.

2. (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control circuit board is provided in a position lower than running movement space of said optical reading unit.

3. (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus carrying an optical reading apparatus thereon, wherein said optical reading apparatus ~~comprising~~ comprises:

platen glass defined with one end and ~~the~~ an other end, on an upper surface ~~of~~ on which an original document is placed;

first carriage means having light source means translating that scans between said both ends on a lower surface of said platen glass, for irradiating an original document surface with light through said platen glass and first reflection means for reflecting reflection light from said original document surface in a direction of said one end of said platen glass;

second carriage means having second reflection means and third reflection means that scans for reflecting said reflection light from said first carriage means in a direction of said other end of platen glass;

a lens receiving reflection light of said original from said second carriage means and for forming an optical image of said original document;

photoelectric conversion means for receiving ~~reflection light from said original document and converting it into an electric signal~~ said optical image formed by said lens and for converting said optical image into electric signals;

~~optical path means for guiding said reflection light to said photoelectric conversion means;~~

A, a control circuit board connected to said photoelectric conversion means, for processing said electric signals; and

a housing ~~wherein~~ having a side on the side of said other end is thicker than a side on the side of said one end,

~~and wherein said image forming apparatus having~~ comprises a cabinet ~~containing~~ positioned under said housing of said optical reading apparatus, said cabinet comprising:

sheet discharge means for discharging an image formation sheet from ~~a lower part lower side on~~ under said thicker side of said housing of said optical reading apparatus ~~toward a lower part upper side on said thinner side of said housing;~~ and

a discharge tray, disposed at and covering an upper portion of said cabinet under said housing of said optical reading apparatus, on which the image formation sheet discharged from said sheet discharge means is received and stacked.

[4. (Canceled)

4 5. (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said control circuit board is provided at an equal height of or at a position lower than said photoelectric conversion means.

A 5 6. (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1 or 3, wherein said optical reading apparatus further comprising shield means, surrounding said photoelectric conversion means and said control circuit board, for preventing entrance of leakage light inside and outside said apparatus and electric noise and preventing electromagnetic wave interference including diffusion of radiation noise.

6 7. (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1 or 3, wherein in said optical reading apparatus, drive mechanism means including a drive motor is provided on said other end side rather than said center of said platen glass on a back side opposite to an operation front side of said apparatus.

7 8. (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said platen glass in said housing means of said optical reading apparatus is moved to the operation front side of said apparatus.

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9. (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said image forming apparatus has an automatic document feeding device on said optical reading apparatus, and wherein said automatic document feeding device is hinged, so as to open and close said platen glass surface, on a back peripheral side opposite to the operation front side of said optical reading apparatus with respect to said cabinet.

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10. (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein image data of said original document is read from said one end side toward said other end side of said platen glass.

11. (Canceled):

12. (Canceled):

13. (Canceled):

14. (Canceled):

15. (Canceled):

16. (Canceled):

17. (Canceled):

18. (Canceled):

19. (Canceled):

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20. (New): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said

control circuit board is for processing said image data transmitted from said optical reading apparatus.

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21. (New): The image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said control circuit board is for processing said electric signals transmitted from said photoelectric conversion means.

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22. (New): The image forming apparatus according to claims 1 or 3, wherein a part that is included in said optical reading apparatus is placed inside said thicker side bottom of said housing of optical reading apparatus.

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23. (New): The image forming apparatus according to claims 1 or 3, wherein said housing of optical reading apparatus has a sink portion formed in said thicker side bottom of said housing, and a part that is included in said optical reading apparatus is placed in said sink portion.